

ABSTRACT

NOVEL PROBES FOR THE DETECTION OF MYCOBACTERIA

- 5 Novel hybridisation assay probes and mixtures of such probes for detecting a target sequence
of one or mycobacteria optionally present in a sample. The probes may suitable be directed to
target sequences of mycobacterial rDNA, precursor rRNA, or rRNA, said probes being
capable of forming detectable hybrids. The probes are in particular directed to mycobacterial
rDNA, to precursor rRNA, or to 23S, 16S or 5S rRNA. The probes are useful for detecting the
10 organisms in test samples such as sputum, laryngeal swabs, gastric lavage, bronchial
washings, biopsies, aspirates, expectorates, body fluids (spinal, pleural, pericardial, synovial,
blood, pus, bone marrow), urine, tissue sections as well as food samples, soil, air and water
samples, and cultures thereof.